United Nations A/56/PV.98

General Assembly

Official Records

Fifty-sixth session

98th plenary meeting
Wednesday, 1 May 2002, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Han Seung-soo ..... (Republic of Korea)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Shobokshi (Saudi Arabia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Agenda item 12 (*continued*)

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Draft resolution (A/56/L.76)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/56/L.76, entitled "Participation in the plenary meetings of the Meeting of the General Assembly devoted to information and communication technologies for development".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/56/L.76?

Draft resolution A/56/L.76 was adopted (resolution 56/281).

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 12.

Agenda item 17 (*continued*)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

(g) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/56/110)

The Acting President: As indicated in document A/56/110, in accordance with the procedures described in article 3, paragraph 1, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, and having consulted the regional groups concerned, as well as through a consultation by secret ballot with the General Assembly, the President of the General Assembly requested China, Cuba, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America to propose candidates.

As further indicated in document A/56/110, as a result of the consultations held in accordance with article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, including consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and with the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the President of the General Assembly submits to the Assembly the candidatures of Mr. Even Francisco Fontaine Ortiz (Cuba), Mr. Tang Guangting (China), Mr. Victor Vislykh (Russian Federation), Ms. Deborah Wynes (United States of America) and Mr. Muhammad Yussuf (United Republic of Tanzania) for appointment as members of the Joint Inspection Unit for a five-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2003 and expiring on 31 December 2007.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to appoint those candidates?

It was so decided.

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02-36104 (E)

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of sub-item (g) of agenda item 17.

Agenda item 18 (*continued*)

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/56/894)

Draft resolution (A/56/894, para. 4)

Mr. Ovia (Papua New Guinea): I would like to make some general comments on the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, under agenda item 18.

The report in document A/56/894 contains a draft resolution on East Timor. In this regard, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Special Committee of 24 for their support. For the information of the General Assembly, this draft resolution was initiated by the former Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea, Ambassador Peter Donigi.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our close neighbours, the Republic of Indonesia and the former administrating Power, Portugal, for their cooperation and understanding in agreeing to the text before us today. The text is a consensus one, and it is now the text of the Chairman of the Special Committee on Decolonization. We in the Assembly all look forward to the next stage that East Timor will embark on after today, and more formally on 20 May. After independence, we hope to welcome it into our midst as one of our very own — an equal and sovereign Member State.

The draft resolution is, in large part, procedural in nature, but I would like to point out a number of salient and substantive facts and implications as we, as an active member of the Committee of 24, see them. For my delegation, the draft resolution before us today sends a very clear signal about three very important aspects.

First of all, as all of the members of the Committee of 24 will agree, the draft resolution, after it has been adopted by the General Assembly today, will end the mandate of the Special Committee over one of the remaining 17 Non-Self Governing Territories. All of us in the Assembly are well aware that the Committee of 24 has been seized of this matter for at least the past two decades, if not longer, although in recent times the Security Council became seized of the matter and arranged for a Special Representative of the Secretary-General to administer the Territory. The Committee's mandate, however, was preserved, and it continued to receive petitions and to arrange participation by representatives of the Territory at its annual meetings and seminars.

Secondly, this draft resolution serves to send a very strong message to all administering Powers that there is a transparent process by which all Territories on the United Nations list under the Special Committee must be dealt with, and that no administering Power may pass its own legislation or do as it pleases with any Territory or group of Territories, whatever its physical size or population, political, economic, social and historical circumstances.

Thirdly, the transparent process involves the development of work programmes on a case-by-case basis for each Territory and involves the Committee in overseeing the proper administration of each Territory up to and including the date of its removal from the United Nations list.

Accordingly, although the draft resolution on East Timor appears to be procedural, it has substantive implications in respect of the mandate of the Special Committee. The implication is that the administering Power cannot bypass the Special Committee by transferring or attempting to deal with the Territory concerned without the involvement of the Committee. It also shows that the Committee is serious and has in place a transparent process for dealing with each Territory.

For these reasons, over the past several years Papua New Guinea has been advocating that a specific programme of work for each Territory be developed, in close collaboration and cooperation with the Committee of 24, the administering Powers and the peoples of the Territory. Such a programme of work

must take account of all of the issues and the circumstances pertaining to each of them.

In this regard, therefore, the Committee has mandated the delegations of Antigua and Barbuda and Papua New Guinea to lead informal discussions with the people of the Territories and the administering Powers to arrive at possible elements for work programmes for the small Territories in both the Caribbean and Pacific regions. The Papua New Guinea delegation, together with all interested delegations, has commenced discussions with the administering Powers in respect to developing work programmes for Tokelau Islands, American Samoa and Pitcairn Island in the Pacific region.

We had one such meeting with the Ulu O Tokelau — the head of Tokelau — the New Zealand Administrator and government officials last year. We are very grateful that Tokelau Islands and its administering Power, New Zealand, are moving in unison in this direction, and hopefully a work programme will be finalized very soon.

We also met with the Government of the United States last year and on 15 March this year, albeit at an informal level. The United States Administration has taken on board the draft work programme and will soon make suggestions to the Special Committee with regard to the Territory of American Samoa.

We have also made initial contact with the Government of the United Kingdom with regard to Pitcairn Island and are awaiting a response.

I would therefore like to conclude my remarks by calling once again on all administering Powers, especially the larger ones — the United States, the United Kingdom and France — to continue to cooperate fully with the Special Committee in all our endeavours to complete our work in this our second decade.

The Acting President: We have heard the only speaker in the debate on this item.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution entitled "Question of East Timor", which is contained in paragraph 4 of the report of the Special Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 56/282).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 18?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 26 (*continued*)

Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children

The Acting President: Members will recall that in its resolution 55/276 of 22 June 2001, the General Assembly decided that three interactive round tables would be held during the special session of the General Assembly on children and that each round table should have two co-chairpersons, making a total of six co-chairpersons. The co-chairpersons shall be heads of State or Government and shall be selected from the five regional groups. The sixth co-chairperson, who shall be the head of State of the country of the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, will co-chair round table 3.

With regard to the sixth co-chairperson, I have been informed that the President of the Republic of Korea will not be able to attend the special session on children. In the light of this development, consultations were held with the chairmen of the regional groups regarding the replacement of the sixth co-chairperson.

I should like to inform members that it has been agreed that the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Nepal will be the replacement as the sixth co-chairperson to co-chair round table 3.

If there is no objection, may I take it that the General Assembly agrees that the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Nepal will be the replacement as the sixth co-chairperson to co-chair round table 3?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 26.

Agenda item 8 (*continued*)

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Draft decision (A/56/L.77)

The Acting President: We shall now proceed to consider draft decision A/56/L.77.

I give the floor to the representative of the Secretariat.

Mr. Perfiliev (Director, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division): In connection with draft decision A/56/L.77, I should like to inform members that this statement of programme budget implications is provided in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure, whereby draft resolutions involving expenditure should be accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General and provided the Fifth Committee has had an opportunity of stating the effect of the proposal upon the budget.

The adoption of draft decision A/56/L.77 would give rise to a requirement for expenditure in the amount of $328,100 in respect of the scheduling of meetings on the weekend of 14 and 15 September 2002. Additional appropriations to accommodate these expenditures will be reflected in the first performance report for the biennium 2002-2003 for inclusion in revised appropriations to be considered at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

As the Fifth Committee is not currently in session, it is understood that approval of draft decision A/56/L.77 would imply a waiver of the requirement for the Fifth Committee to state its effect on the budget at this stage.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft decision A/56/L.77, entitled "General debate of the fifty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft decision A/56/L.77?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: I give the floor to the representative of Cuba, who wishes to make a statement in explanation of position on the draft decision just adopted.

Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation would like to state that, although we have accepted this decision, we have serious concerns in that regard. We raised these concerns, which are shared by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, at the Group's monthly meetings in March and April.

Unfortunately, the Group's concerns were not taken into account, or could not be taken into account, by the presidency of the Assembly in respect of the parameters for the General Assembly debate. We would have preferred that the general debate be held during the 10 customary days, regardless of the fact that we would be working on Saturday or Sunday, and we would have preferred also that there not be a time limit on statements. However, given that the time limit is a voluntary one, my delegation's understanding is that statements by the heads of State or heads of delegation participating in the debate will not be interrupted.

We also trust that this new decision will not set a precedent. Last year we were told that the arrangements that were made would naturally not set a precedent for this year; we fully understood that. However, this year, for the second time, we are being told that this decision does not set a precedent, when, in reality, it does.

That is explanation of position we wished to make in this respect.

The Acting President: We have heard the only speaker in explanation of vote.

The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 8.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.

United Nations A/56/PV.99

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session

Official Records

99th plenary meeting
Wednesday, 22 May 2002, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Han Seung-soo ..... (Republic of Korea)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Hussein (Ethiopia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Agenda item 125 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations
(A/56/780/Add.5)

The Acting President: I should like to draw the attention of the General Assembly to document A/56/780/Add.5. In the letter contained in that document, the Secretary-General informs the President of the General Assembly that, since the issuance of his communications contained in documents A/56/780 and addenda 1 to 4, the Democratic Republic of the Congo has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of the information contained in this document?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 17 (*continued*)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/56/626/Add.1)

The Acting President: In paragraph 5 of the report of the Fifth Committee contained in document A/56/626/Add.1, the Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint Mr. Kenshiro Akimoto of Japan a member of the Committee on Contributions for a term of office beginning on 22 May 2002 and ending on 31 December 2003.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to appoint the person recommended by the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 17.

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02-39378 (E)

Agenda item 8 (*continued*)

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Acting President: Members will recall that, at its 3rd plenary meeting on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly decided to allocate sub-item (a) of agenda item 98 to the Second Committee. Members will also recall that the sub-item remains open for consideration during the fifty-sixth session.

As mentioned in the footnote to document A/56/L.78, under agenda items 46 and 98 (a), in order for the General Assembly to take action expeditiously on the draft resolution, the Assembly will have to decide to consider the sub-item directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to consider sub-item (a) of agenda item 98 directly in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: May I further take it that the Assembly agrees to proceed immediately to the consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 98?

As I see no objection, we shall proceed accordingly.

Agenda items 46 and 98 (*continued*)

The situation in East Timor during its transition to independence

Environment and sustainable development

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Draft resolution (A/56/L.78)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/56/L.78, entitled "Participation of East Timor in the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its preparatory process".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/56/L.78?

Draft resolution A/56/L.78 was adopted (resolution 56/283).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 46.

The Assembly has concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 98.

Agenda item 89 (*continued*)

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/56/551/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in paragraph 10 of its report.

I request the Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) to introduce the report of the Fourth Committee.

Mr. Maitland (South Africa), Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee): It is an honour for me to present to the General Assembly document A/56/551/Add.1, which contains the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (the Fourth Committee) covering a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, under item 89 of the Assembly's agenda.

As those present may recall, my previous appearance before this body, on 10 December last, was for the purpose of introducing all the other reports of the Fourth Committee on agenda items 85 through 94, as well as items 12 and 18. Those reports, contained in documents A/56/547 to A/56/557, included the texts of draft resolutions and decisions recommended to the General Assembly for adoption. With the presentation today of A/56/551/Add.1, which recommends the draft resolution on item 89 to the General Assembly by the Fourth Committee, the reporting obligations of the Fourth Committee for and to this session are fulfilled.

In its operative paragraphs, the draft resolution proposed by the Fourth Committee in A/56/551/Add.1 welcomes the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations; endorses the proposals, recommendations and conclusions contained in that report; urges Member States to take all necessary steps

to implement them; reiterates the conditions under which personnel-contributing countries may become members of the Special Committee; decides that the Special Committee shall continue its efforts; and requests it to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

In the course of its 20th to 22nd meetings, held during the first part of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, and in its resumed session on 26 April 2002, the Fourth Committee examined agenda item 89 from a number of different perspectives. These began with a comprehensive introductory statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and a general debate under this item. They continued with an informal interactive meeting covering the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects. They also included informal interactive discussions in the Committee with the Under-Secretary-General and other senior officials of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

Subsequently, in April 2002, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee again took up this agenda item to examine the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and to approve a draft resolution endorsing it. Today, those labours result in the report that those present see before them, which I now have the honour to present to the General Assembly for its approval.

In so doing, I would be remiss were I to fail to acknowledge those whose efforts have been particularly vital in bringing it to fruition: the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, its Bureau and those delegations that coordinated the draft resolutions adopted by it; the Chairman of the Fourth Committee, Ambassador Hasmy Agam of Malaysia and Vice-Chairpersons Ms. Anna-Maija Korpi of Finland, Mrs. Alexandrina Rusu of Romania and Mr. Cristián Streeter of Chile. I should also like to express appreciation to the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, Mr. Chen Jian; the Secretary of the Committee, Ms. Lesley Wilkinson, and her very competent team from the Secretariat.

The document before us is a testament to the diligence and dedication that each and all of them have brought to this endeavour. With that in mind, it is my particular pleasure to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration and adoption the recommendations of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee contained in document A/56/551/Add.1, covering a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

The Acting President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) which is before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: May I remind members that, under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I also remind delegations that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the draft resolution, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take a decision in the same manner as was done in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), unless notified otherwise in advance.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 56/225 B).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 89?

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.

United Nations A/56/PV.100

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session

Official Records

100th plenary meeting
Thursday, 6 June 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Han Seung-soo ..... (Republic of Korea)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Sevilla Somoza (Nicaragua), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Joseph Nanven Garba, late former President of the General Assembly

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Before turning to the item on the agenda for this morning, the General Assembly will pay tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Joseph Nanven Garba, President of the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, who passed away last Saturday.

Before serving a distinguished term as President of the General Assembly, Mr. Garba, an accomplished diplomat and a former Minister for Foreign Affairs of his country, Nigeria, had a long and outstanding association with the United Nations. As the chief delegate of Nigeria to the United Nations in the 1980s, Mr. Garba also served as Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid from 1984 to 1989, providing vigorous leadership in the worldwide campaign against apartheid in South Africa.

Mr. Garba will be remembered for the prominent roles he played in the Organization and for the major contributions he made towards the achievement of the objectives set out in the Charter of the United Nations.

On behalf of the General Assembly, I should like to convey to the bereaved family of Mr. Garba and to the Government and the people of Nigeria our deepest condolences.

I now invite members of the Assembly to stand and observe a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of the late former President of the General Assembly, Mr. Joseph Nanven Garba.

The members of the General Assembly observed a minute of silence.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I give the floor to the representative of Nigeria.

Mr. Ndekhedekhe (Nigeria): I wish to express profound appreciation that it is under your able leadership, Sir, that this meeting of the General Assembly is paying tribute this morning to the memory of Ambassador Garba.

On behalf of the people and the Government of Nigeria, let me express deep appreciation to the various delegations, personalities and others who, in various ways, have shown their sense of loss and expressed their condolences since the death of General Garba on Saturday, 1 June 2002, after a brief illness. Let me also express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his kind words of condolence conveyed to the family of the late Ambassador Garba and to the people of Nigeria. In addition, I should like to acknowledge and to express my appreciation for the kind words expressed in tribute to Ambassador Garba by the

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02-41394 (E)

President of the Security Council yesterday on behalf of that body.

The late Ambassador Garba was a rare personality. He devoted his life to serving his country, Africa and the international community. That was why he spent most of his time resolving conflicts, especially in Africa. And although some of those conflicts still remain flashpoints of concern today, nevertheless Ambassador Garba contributed his own quota to international peace and security. The details of his own life and accounts are ably chronicled in his book, entitled *Diplomatic Soldiering*.

Although Ambassador Garba's discipline was soldiering, his passion was diplomacy. That enabled him to serve creditably as Nigeria's Foreign Minister and, later, as Nigeria's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. During that period, he served the General Assembly as President during its forty-fourth session. He was also Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, as well as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement's Good Offices Committee on arbitration during the same period. It was in his capacity as Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid that Ambassador Garba exhibited his doggedness and principal philosophy of purposeful support for the fight for freedom, liberty and self-determination, especially in southern Africa.

It is true that today General Garba is no more, but everywhere that national and international assignments took him during his lifetime he was able to serve his fatherland and the world community with passion and commitment. Indeed, it was the same passion to serve mankind that influenced him to accept, even after his retirement, to serve as Director-General of Nigeria's prestigious National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, in Kuru.

While Nigeria and other admirers of the late Ambassador Garba grieve his death, we are thankful that God gave Nigeria the opportunity to serve this body, which enabled Ambassador Garba to serve the United Nations system. We are equally grateful that this morning the General Assembly is paying tribute to one of its own fallen heroes. May God accept the soul of the departed and grant fortitude to Nigeria and the family of the deceased to bear the loss.

Agenda item 125 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/56/780/Add.6)

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): In the letter contained in document A/56/780/Add.6, the Secretary-General informs the President of the General Assembly that, since the issuance of his communications contained in documents A/56/780 and addenda 1 to 5, Dominica has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of the information contained in document A/56/780/Add.6?

It was so decided.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I should like to recall for representatives that at its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly decided to allocate sub-item (b) of agenda item 17 to the Fifth Committee. In order for the Assembly to take the required action expeditiously on this sub-item, as requested in document A/56/102/Add.3, may I take it that the Assembly agrees to consider this sub-item directly in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): May I further take it that the Assembly agrees to proceed immediately to the consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 17? I see no objection. We shall now proceed accordingly.

Agenda item 17 (*continued*)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions

Note by the Secretary-General (A/56/102/Add.3)

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): In his note contained in document A/56/102/Add.3, the Secretary-General informs the Assembly that the Government of Belgium has nominated Michel Tilemans to fill the vacancy that has occurred in the Committee on Contributions as a result of the death of

Angel Marrón Gómez of Spain for the remainder of the term of office of Mr. Marrón Gómez, which expires on 31 December 2002.

In his note, the Secretary-General further states that he has been informed by the Chairman of the Group of Western European and other States that the candidature of Mr. Michel Tilemans has been endorsed by that Group. May I therefore take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to appoint Mr. Michel Tilemans as a member of the Committee on Contributions for a term of office beginning on 6 June 2002 and ending on 31 December 2002?

It was so decided.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 17.

The meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.